

Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) Grant Program 4-9-14

Program Purpose: To establish strong and sustainable CWMAs across Minnesota for the effective control of invasive species and protection of conservation lands and natural areas.

Reasons CWMAs are Needed Across Minnesota

- 1) They provide effective weed mapping, education, outreach and management leading to the control of emerging and established invasive species.
- 2) They work effectively across geographic and ownership boundaries.
- 3) They develop strong partnerships to leverage expertise and funding
- **4)** They help prevent significant ecological and economic losses from invasive species
- **5)** They protect the diversity and resiliency of natural areas and conservation lands.

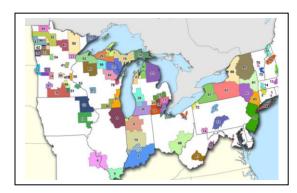
CWMA and Program Funding History:

CWMAs started in western states to manage grazing lands. Clay County had the first Minnesota CWMA, acting as a model for the BWSR program that started in 2008.

- -FY 2008/2009 \$400,000 (legislative appropriation)
- -FY 2010/2011 \$200,000 (legislative appropriation)
- -FY 2012 \$232,470 (funded with cost-share roll-over funds)
- -FY2013 No funding available
- -FY 2014/2015 \$200,000 (legislative appropriation)
- -FY 2014/2015 \$200,000 (legislative appropriation)

Current Status of Program

Minnesota CWMAs cover 39 counties, making the state on-par with other Midwest states. Future funding sources will be needed to develop new groups and sustain existing groups.

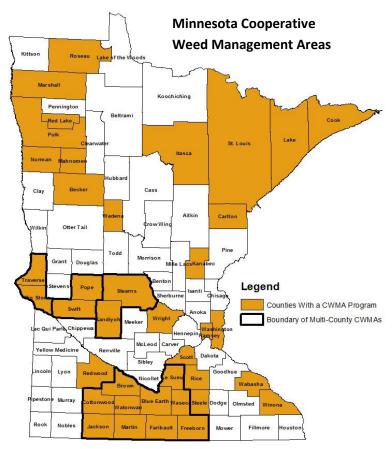


CWMAs across the Midwest (2013)

What is a CWMA? ...a local organization that provides a mechanism for sharing invasive species management resources across jurisdictional boundaries in order to achieve widespread invasive species prevention and control.



Roseau CWMA working with County Commissioners



CWMA Models: The following are three examples of how CWMAs are tackling weed issues

across Minnesota:



Marsha Watland of Becker CWMA meeting with landowners

Becker CWMA

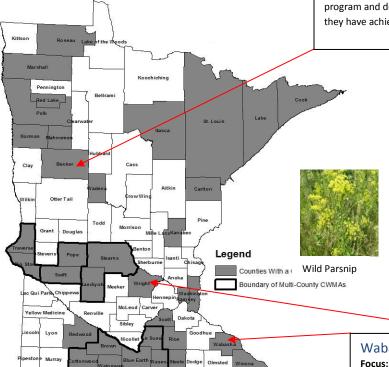
Focus: Emerging weed threats- crown vetch, common tansy, spotted knapweed, leafy spurge, wild parsnip.

Started: 2006 with a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant (NFWF).

Mapping: Conducted baseline GIS mapping of all invasive weeds in the county.

Management Action: Combined manual, biological and cultural treatments for target species across the county.

Strength of Program: Through mapping, partnering with the County Hwy. Dept., establishment of a gravel pit certification program and developing a landowner cost-share program they have achieved effective control of weeds in the county.



Wright CWMA

Focus: Wild Parsnip control (a significant agricultural, ecological, and human health threat to the county), now adding other species.

Started: 2008 with BWSR Funding.

Mapping: GIS Mapping of parsnip locations across county.

ounty.

Management Action: Worked with over 100 landowners and treated 11,000 acres.

Strength of Program: Partnership with County Hwy. Dept., Townships and Landowners to halt the spread of an emerging weed threat.

Wabasha CWMA

Focus: Addressing emerging weed threats from Japanese knotweed and Japanese barberry, as well as common buckthorn and invasive honeysuckle shrubs.

Started: 2008 with BWSR Funding, developed own cost-share program.

Mapping: GIS Mapping of 1000 acres of invasive species populations.

Management Action: Over 150 acres have been treated for removal of invasive species in important habitat areas.

Strength of Program: Effective control of emerging weed threats. Focus on protecting intact plant communities and re-seeding native vegetation after removal.



Terri Peters of Wabasha CWMA monitoring invasive species